THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The fertilizers which have proven efficiency for increasing the Agriculture Production are included in Schedule I, Part A of FCO, 1985 for their promotion. The complex fertilizer namely 20:20:0, 16:20:0 and Ammonium Sulphate are included in FCO. Also 20:20:0 and 16:20:0 are included in the Concession scheme for Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers.

(b) To supplement identified deficiencies of sulphur and zinc in the soil, Sulphur has been included as an essential nutrient in the FCO, 1985. Also there are many identified products of Sulphur which are included in Schedule I, Part A of the FCO. Similarly, to meet the deficiency of zinc in crop & soil Zinc Sulphate Monohydrate. Zinc Sulphate Hepta Hydrate & Chelated Zinc have been included in FCO as straight micronutrient fertilizer.

Shortage of milk at Mother Dairy booths

†2577. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of milk to consumers has reduced due to shortage of milk at Mother Dairy booths in Delhi caused by occurance of flood in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the percentage of shortage of milk; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir. Supply of milk to consumers at present at Mother Dairy booths has not reduced due to floods in Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of the reply at (a) above.

Diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes

2578. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that suggestions have been received to conserve

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

prime farmland for agriculture and that it should not be diverted for non-agricultural purposes;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have received suggestions to amend the Constitution to bring agriculture in the concurrent List; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Land is a State subject and, therefore, it is for the States to bring about suitable legislation regarding regulation of conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Programme of State Land Use Boards (SLUBs). Some of the States, through their SLUBs have issued instructions and executive orders to the line departments of their Government to ensure that prime agricultural land is not diverted for non-agricultural purposes, and if it becomes necessary to do so, then efforts may be made to provide eqivalent land in lieu of diverted land.

Recently, the Government of India have also provided a checklist to all the State Governments to consider at the time of approving/giving no objection for the Special Economic Zone (SEZ).

(c) and (d) No such proposal is under consideration.

Damage to cotton crops due to pests

2579. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that cotton, an important commercial crop grown in India, is being attacked by a number of pests in various States resulting into damage of cotton crops; and

(b) if so, the details of measures proposed by Government to save the cotton crop from the pest attack, to save the poor agriculturists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) There is no report of any serious outbreak of any pests on cotton during the current year.

(b) Government have adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as